

First Extraordinary Session, 2005

SENATE BILL NO. 79

BY SENATOR ELLINGTON

FUNDS/FUNDING. Provides relative to the expenditure of funds appropriated through the Minimum Foundation Formula. (1/1/06)

1 AN ACT  
2 To enact R.S. 17:497(G), (H), (I) and (J), relative to the expenditure of funds in the  
3 Minimum Foundation Formula for transportation; to provide for compensation for  
4 mileage for school bus drivers, to provide for the calculation of the rate of  
5 compensation for the operation of school buses in the public school system of the  
6 state; to provide for a beginning date; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:497 (G), (H), (I) and (J) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §497. School bus drivers; operational schedules

10 \* \* \*

11 **G. (1) Beginning January 1, 2006, and continuing thereafter, there shall**  
12 **be paid to the operators thereof, as defined herein, for the operation of each**  
13 **school bus operated in the public school system of the state of Louisiana, a rate**  
14 **of compensation for such operation in accordance with the following schedule:**  
15 **Beginning January 1, 2006 and thereafter (All figures are on a cents per**  
16 **mile basis.)**

	<u>First</u>	<u>Next</u>	<u>Over</u>
	<u>6 Miles</u>	<u>6 Miles</u>	<u>12 Miles</u>
<u>Length of bus</u>	<u>0-6.0</u>	<u>6.1-12.0</u>	<u>12.0 Plus</u>
<u>39 feet or more</u>	<u>129.98</u>	<u>118.15</u>	<u>88.59</u>
<u>38 feet or more, but less than 39 feet</u>	<u>124.07</u>	<u>112.24</u>	<u>88.59</u>
<u>34 feet or more, but less than 38 feet</u>	<u>118.15</u>	<u>106.32</u>	<u>88.59</u>
<u>28 feet or more, but less than 34 feet</u>	<u>112.24</u>	<u>100.42</u>	<u>82.69</u>
<u>26 feet or more, but less than 28 feet</u>	<u>106.32</u>	<u>94.52</u>	<u>82.69</u>
<u>23 feet or more, but less than 26 feet</u>	<u>100.42</u>	<u>88.60</u>	<u>82.69</u>
<u>21 feet or more, but less than 23 feet</u>	<u>94.52</u>	<u>82.69</u>	<u>76.79</u>
<u>19 feet or more, but less than 21 feet</u>	<u>88.60</u>	<u>76.79</u>	<u>70.89</u>
<u>17 feet or more, but less than 19 feet</u>	<u>88.60</u>	<u>70.89</u>	<u>64.98</u>
<u>14 feet or more, but less than 17 feet</u>	<u>59.08</u>	<u>53.15</u>	<u>41.34</u>
<u>Less than 14 feet buses, station wagons, and carryalls</u>	<u>59.08</u>	<u>53.15</u>	<u>41.34</u>

(2) The compensation, as computed in accordance with the schedule contained in this Subsection shall be paid for a minimum of one hundred eighty days during the nine-month school year, and for the number of days of actual operation for any summer semester.

H. (1) Each school board shall designate the size of the bus to be used on each official regular school bus route. When an operator deems it necessary to purchase a bus, either new or used for not more than five years from the date of manufacture, of the designated size to be used on an official regular school bus route, he shall obtain the approval for the purchase by the school board or its duly designated officer or agent. After purchasing a new or used bus not more than five years old, so approved, no operator shall be penalized as a result of the change by the school board in the designated size of the bus or the length of the route within a five-year period following such purchase of a bus. However, the period shall be seven years for those operators who purchase a new bus after January 1, 2006.

(2) No city or parish school board shall approve the purchase by an

1 operator of a used bus when the sole purpose of such purchase is to extend the  
2 protected period against penalty provided for in this Subsection.

3 (3) The distribution of state funds for school transportation to the city  
4 and parish school boards shall include any costs incurred by school boards in  
5 complying with these provisions.

6 I. Beginning with the first pay period commencing on or after January  
7 1, 2006, any parish or city school system exempt from the provisions of R.S.  
8 17:496 shall participate in this Section in the same manner as other parish and  
9 city school systems.

10 J.(1) When funds become available, and continuing thereafter, there  
11 shall be paid to the operators thereof, as defined herein, for the operation of  
12 each school bus operated in the public school system of the state of Louisiana,  
13 a rate of compensation for such operation in accordance with the following  
14 schedule:

15 Beginning January 1, 2006 and thereafter

<u>Length of bus</u>	<u>Cents per mile</u>
<u>39 feet or more</u>	<u>129.98</u>
<u>38 feet or more, but less than 39 feet</u>	<u>124.07</u>
<u>34 feet or more, but less than 38 feet</u>	<u>118.15</u>
<u>28 feet or more, but less than 34 feet</u>	<u>112.24</u>
<u>26 feet or more, but less than 28 feet</u>	<u>106.32</u>
<u>23 feet or more, but less than 26 feet</u>	<u>100.42</u>
<u>21 feet or more, but less than 23 feet</u>	<u>94.52</u>
<u>19 feet or more, but less than 21 feet</u>	<u>88.60</u>
<u>17 feet or more, but less than 19 feet</u>	<u>88.60</u>
<u>14 feet or more, but less than 17 feet</u>	<u>59.08</u>
<u>Less than 14 feet buses, station wagons</u>	
<u>and carryalls</u>	<u>59.08</u>

29 (2) The compensation, as computed in accordance with the schedules

1 **contained in this Section, shall be paid for a minimum of one hundred eighty**  
 2 **days during the nine-month school year, and for the number of days of actual**  
 3 **operation for any summer semester. However, until funds become available,**  
 4 **payment shall be made as provided in Subsection G of this Section.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by David Smith.

DIGEST

Present law provides for the MFP to include funds to be expended by city, parish or local public school boards for transportation.

Present law establishes a schedule for rate of compensation for school bus operators for operation of school buses operated in the public school system for a minimum of one hundred eighty days during the nine-month school year, and for the number of days of actual operation for any summer semester as follows:

Beginning with the fall term of 1986 and thereafter (All figures are on a cents per mile basis.)

<u>Length of bus</u>	<u>First 6 Miles 0-6.0</u>	<u>Next 6 Miles 6.1-12.0</u>	<u>Over 12 Miles 12.0 Plus</u>
39 feet or more	117.80	107.08	80.29
38 feet or more, but less than 39 feet	112.44	101.72	80.29
34 feet or more, but less than 38 feet	107.08	96.36	80.29
28 feet or more, but less than 34 feet	101.72	91.01	74.94
26 feet or more, but less than 28 feet	96.36	85.66	74.94
23 feet or more, but less than 26 feet	91.01	80.30	74.94
21 feet or more, but less than 23 feet	85.66	74.94	69.59
19 feet or more, but less than 21 feet	80.30	69.59	64.25
17 feet or more, but less than 19 feet	80.30	64.25	58.89
14 feet or more, but less than 17 feet	53.54	48.17	37.47
Less than 14 feet buses, station wagons, and carryalls	53.54	48.17	37.47

Proposed law would change the rate of compensation for operation of each school bus operated in the public school system beginning January 1, 2006 as follows:

Beginning January 1, 2006 and thereafter (All figures are on a cents per mile basis.)

<u>Length of bus</u>	<u>First 6 Miles 0-6.0</u>	<u>Next 6 Miles 6.1-12.0</u>	<u>Over 12 Miles 12.0 Plus</u>
39 feet or more	129.98	118.15	88.59
38 feet or more, but less than 39 feet	124.07	112.24	88.59
34 feet or more, but less than 38 feet	118.15	106.32	88.59
28 feet or more, but less than 34 feet	112.24	100.42	82.69
26 feet or more, but less than 28 feet	106.32	94.52	82.69
23 feet or more, but less than 26 feet	100.42	88.60	82.69
21 feet or more, but less than 23 feet	94.52	82.69	76.79
19 feet or more, but less than 21 feet	88.60	76.79	70.89
17 feet or more, but less than 19 feet	88.60	70.89	64.98

14 feet or more, but less than 17 feet	59.08	53.15	41.34
Less than 14 feet buses, station wagons, and carryalls	59.08	53.15	41.34

Present law provides that when funds are available, and continuing thereafter, there shall be paid to the operators thereof, as defined herein, for the operation of each school bus operated in the public school system of the state of Louisiana, a rate of compensation for such operation in accordance with the following schedule:

Beginning Fall Term, 1986 and thereafter

<u>Length of bus</u>	<u>Cents per mile</u>
39 feet or more	117.80
38 feet or more, but less than 39 feet	112.44
34 feet or more, but less than 38 feet	107.08
28 feet or more, but less than 34 feet	101.72
26 feet or more, but less than 28 feet	96.36
23 feet or more, but less than 26 feet	91.01
21 feet or more, but less than 23 feet	85.66
19 feet or more, but less than 21 feet	80.30
17 feet or more, but less than 19 feet	80.30
14 feet or more, but less than 17 feet	53.54
Less than 14 feet buses, station wagons and carryalls	53.54

Proposed law would provide that when funds are available, and continuing thereafter, there shall be paid to the operators thereof, as defined herein, for the operation of each school bus operated in the public school system of the state of Louisiana, a rate of compensation for such operation in accordance with the following schedule:

Beginning January 1, 2006 and thereafter

<u>Length of bus</u>	<u>Cents per mile</u>
39 feet or more	129.98
38 feet or more, but less than 39 feet	124.07
34 feet or more, but less than 38 feet	118.15
28 feet or more, but less than 34 feet	112.24
26 feet or more, but less than 28 feet	106.32
23 feet or more, but less than 26 feet	100.42
21 feet or more, but less than 23 feet	94.52
19 feet or more, but less than 21 feet	88.60
17 feet or more, but less than 19 feet	88.60
14 feet or more, but less than 17 feet	59.08
Less than 14 feet buses, station wagons and carryalls	59.08

Effective January 1, 2006

(Adds R.S. 17:497(G), (H), (I) and (J))